Interception of Mail

4524. SHRI MATI MANORAMA PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of complaints have been received from the members of Sarva Priya Apartments, South Delhi regarding interception of mail addressed to them ;

(b) whether some Members of Parliament have also written to Government for a thorough investigation into the matter;

(c) if so, what action has been taken on the various complaints made so far in this connection, and

(d) whether it is a fact that according to the preliminary findings by the Postal Department it was found that interception of the mail was going on at the instances of the promoters of the Society and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH) : (a) Complaints were received from four residents of Sarva Priya Apartments in connection with wrong/delayed delivery of mails alleging, *inter alia*, that there was interception of mails.

(b) A member of Parliament from Lok Sabha had written to the then Minister of Communications regarding the complaints of the residents & requesting for a highlevel enquiry into the matter. After the complaints were looked into and remedial actions was taken to transfer two postmen away from Hauz Khas post office, another Member of Parliament wrote to the the then Minister of Communications claiming that the transfer of the two postmen who worked with sincerity & loyality was unjust.

(c) Complaints were enquired into and two postmen who were found responsible for delayed/wrong delivery were transferred to another office.

(d) No. Sir Enquiries revealed that in two cases there were delayed delivery of registered articles. In other cases wrong delivery of letters was detected. There was no instance of interception of mails.

New Technique for Oil Exploration

4525. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new technique for oil exploration has recently been discovered in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT):

(a) No. Sir

(b) Does not arise.